



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING JUNE 18, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District met at the Lower Platte South NRD Office on Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Directors participating were Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum. Andersen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Andersen welcomed those in attendance, and the pledge of allegiance was recited. He noted that the public meetings law is posted in the room and that carrying concealed weapons is prohibited at board meetings and on District property. He requested all cell phones be put on silent mode. He reminded everyone a recording of the meeting will be on the NRD website. Andersen requested anyone wishing to speak on an agenda item to provide their name on the sign-in sheet and which agenda item they wished to speak on. An opportunity for the public to speak to non-agenda items was given.

ITEM 1. ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Nineteen Directors were present upon roll call.

ITEM 2. PUBLICATION OF LEGAL NOTICE OF MEETING

Andersen reported that the legal notice of the Board Meeting was published on June 6, 2025 in the Lincoln Journal Star and on the Lincoln Journal Star & Nebraska Press Association Websites.

ITEM 3. CONSIDERATION OF DIRECTORS' ABSENCES

Andersen stated requests for excused absences were received from Luke Peterson for the May 21, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting and Gary Hellerich for the June 18, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting.

It was moved by Landis and seconded by Hassebrook to approve the requests for excused absences from Luke Peterson for the May 21, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting and Gary Hellerich for the June 18, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

ABSTAIN: Peterson

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

ITEM 4. ADOPT AGENDA

It was moved by Seacrest and seconded by Matejka to adopt the Agenda. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

ITEM 5. RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARIES

David Potter, Assistant General Manager, recognized Connie Hansen, Field Office Secretary, Lancaster County NRCS, for 35 years of service to the District, Nathan Kuhlman, IS Administrator, for 15 years of service to the District and Jodi Delozier, Communications Coordinator / Adult Environmental Education, recognized Adam Sutton, Environmental Educator, for 15 years of service to the District.

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Eagan and seconded by Hassebrook to approve the Minutes of the May 21, 2025 Board of Directors' Meeting. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

ABSTAIN: Lamberty, Peterson and Schutz

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

ITEM 7. REPORT OF THE FINANCE & PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Lewis stated that the financial reports for the period July 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025 had been distributed.

It was moved by Lewis and seconded by Jacobson to approve the financial reports for July 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025 and publish the expenditures for May, 2025.

David Potter, Assistant General Manager, answered questions of the Board regarding the financials.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

Lewis stated that the Finance and Planning Subcommittee met on June 11, 2025 regarding the first draft of the Budget.

Chris Barber, Administration and Finance Manager, gave a presentation of Draft #1.1 of the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. There were no public comments on the Budget.

ITEM 8. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Andersen stated that the Executive Subcommittee met on June 12, 2025. Andersen stated that Item 8c would be heard in closed session later in the meeting.

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the Resolution authorizing the Assistant General Manager to temporarily act on behalf of the General Manager. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve a stipend of \$1,200.00 per month for the Assistant General Manager for the period of time he is Acting General Manager, and which said stipend shall be prorated back to June 5th. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

Andersen presented the following statement: Nebraska law requires the District to maintain a public record of all settled claims and this is intended to satisfy that requirement. McKenzie Barry, a former employee, filed a claim against the District. The District agreed to compromise and settle all potential claims related to her employment with the District in exchange for Barry's agreement to release the District from all such claims.

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve a Right of Access Agreement with the City of Lincoln.

David Potter, Assistant General Manager, and Corey Wasserburger, Legal Counsel, answered questions of the Board regarding the Right of Access Agreement with the City of Lincoln.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

ITEM 9. REPORT OF THE URBAN SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Landis stated that the Urban subcommittee met on June 5, 2025.

Landis moved the Urban Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the Assistant General Manager to execute an Agreement to Stevens Creek Master Plan #4A1 Easement.

Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator, David Potter, Assistant General Manager, and Corey Wasserburger, Legal Counsel answered questions of the Board regarding the Agreement to Stevens Creek Master Plan #4A1 Easement.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

Landis moved the Urban Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the Beaver Lake Association Culvert Replacement Design Phase Project, at a cost share amount of 50% of the total recommended cost, not to exceed \$36,121.00.

Troy Weatherby, representing Beaver Lake Association, addressed the Board. Drew Ratkovec, Projects Coordinator, and David Potter, Assistant General Manager, answered questions of the Board regarding the Beaver Lake Association Culver Replacement Design Phase Project.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge, Baker and Peterson

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

ITEM 10. REPORT OF THE RECREATION, FORESTRY & WILDLIFE SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Hawkins stated that the Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee met on June 5, 2025.

Hawkins moved the Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors authorize the Assistant General Manager to sign a license agreement for private crossing for agricultural purposes on the Homestead Trail with Red Wing Acres LLC. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

Hawkins moved the Recreation, Forestry & Wildlife Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors authorize the Assistant General Manager to sign the Lancaster County Engineering Department Right-Of-Way Contract for their purchase of a Permanent Easement on 0.02 acres on the Homestead Trail The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

Hawkins moved the Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors authorize the Assistant General Manager to sign the Agreement for Professional Services with EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., for a firm-fixed price of \$65,700.00 for the bank stabilization project on Oak Creek Trail. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum
NAY: Aldridge
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

Hawkins moved the Recreation, Forestry and Wildlife Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the guidelines and rules for the Recreation Trail Assistance Program.

Will Inselman, Resources Coordinator, answers questions of the Board regarding the Recreation Trail Assistance Program.

The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum
VOTING "PRESENT": Aldridge
ABSTAIN: Baker
NAY: None
NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

ITEM 11. REPORT OF THE LAND RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Vogel stated that the Land Resources Subcommittee did not meet prior to the Board meeting. He reported that one cost-share application has been received for installing water quality improvement practices for the NRD's Summer Conservation Program. The application was reviewed by the Eastern Review Group. The application is within the Turkey Creek Watershed and meets the criteria for the Cost-Share Program.

It was moved by Vogel and seconded by Eagan to approve summer surface water quality BMP cost-share application for Ruse Farms, Inc., within the Turkey Creek Watershed, in the amount of \$25,000.00. The motion was approved.

AYE: Aldridge, Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: None

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich and Spangler

ITEM 12. ITEMS REQUIRING CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Green and seconded by Eagan that the Board of Directors go into closed session at 6:46 p.m. in order to discuss and consider engagement with Baylor Evnen Law Firm for legal services. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Matejka, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest and Vogel

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Jacobson, Spangler, and Yoakum

It was moved by Green and seconded by Lewis to return to open session at 7:05 p.m. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Matejka and Spangler

Andersen moved the Executive Subcommittee's recommendation that the Board of Directors approve the engagement with Baylor Evnen Law Firm for consultation on employment matters. The motion was approved.

AYE: Andersen, Baker, Eagan, Green, Hassebrook, Hawkins, Jacobson, Lamberty, Landis, Lewis, Mealer, Peterson, Ruth, Schutz, Seacrest, Vogel and Yoakum

NAY: Aldridge

NOT PRESENT: Hellerich, Matejka and Spangler

ITEM 13. NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCES DISTRICTS (NARD) REPORT

John Yoakum reported that the NARD Basin Tour – Niobrara River Basin was held on June 9th and 10th.

ITEM 14. PERMIT AND PROGRAM APPROVALS

A report of permit and program approvals was distributed.

ITEM 15. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

A schedule of upcoming events and activities was mailed out.

ITEM 16. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Various memos were mailed out.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. The undersigned, the duly elected and acting Secretary of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (the "District"), hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of the District held on June 18, 2025 that all of the matters and subjects discussed at the meeting were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the District during normal business hours, and except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda was not altered later than twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the above minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurred earlier; and, that reasonable efforts were made to provide all news media requesting notification of the meeting and of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Christine Lamberty, Secretary

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